

# How to recognise fake news and find valid sources



15-18

1 h  
30 m

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define what a fake news is
- Identify common characteristics of fake news
- Distinguish reliable and unreliable sources of information
- Use strategies to evaluate the credibility of sources
- Apply critical thinking skills to determine the accuracy of information

## MATERIALS NEEDED

- Computer with internet access and projector
- Handouts on evaluating sources
- Examples of fake news articles
- Examples of reliable sources of information

## LEARNING SCENARIO AND ACTIVITIES PROPOSED

### 1) Introduction (10 minutes)

Introduce the topic of fake news and its prevalence in today's society. Ask students if they have ever encountered fake news and what their experience was like.

### 2) Defining Fake News (15 minutes)

Define what fake news is and provide examples of different types of fake news. Discuss how fake news can be harmful and why it is important to recognise it.

**3) Characteristics of Fake News (15 minutes)**

Present a list of common characteristics of fake news, such as sensational headlines, emotional language, and lack of sources. Discuss why these characteristics are often used in fake news articles.

**4) Evaluating Sources (20 minutes)**

Introduce strategies for evaluate the credibility of sources, such as checking the author's credentials, examining the sources cited in the article, and looking for bias.

Provide examples of reliable sources of information, such as academic journals, government websites, and reputable news outlets.

**5) Activity: Evaluating Sources (30 minutes)** – online newspapers, social networks news, articles on different sites.**6) Conclusion: Critical Thinking (20 minutes)**

Discuss how critical thinking skills can be applied to determine the accuracy of information. Provide examples of common logical fallacies and how they can be used to manipulate information.

**EXPECTED DIFFICULTIES AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS**

- Some students may have difficulty recognising fake news articles.  
Solution: provide clear examples and explain the common characteristics of fake news.
- Some students may not be familiar with the strategies for evaluating sources.  
Solution: provide handouts and give ample time for students.

**ASSESSMENT**

- Ask students to write a short reflection on what they learned about recognising fake news and finding valid sources.
- Have students evaluate a news story on their own and write a short report on their findings.

- Find fake news on any social media usually used.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Emphasise the importance of being sceptical about information found online and the need to verify sources.
- Encourage students to fact-check information they encounter online and to share their findings with others.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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